since this meant in practice Japanese control, Nanking would not give its consent. In 1934 a spokesman for Tokyo's foreign office declared that Japanese would oppose "any attempt on the part of China to avail herself of the influence of any other country in order to resist Japan[37] and would include in this category "detailing military and naval instructors or military advisers to China" and loans "to provide funds for political uses." Part of this protest arose from efforts of the League of Nations, now anathema to Japan, to assist China in her economic reconstruction. In 1935 a project for the reform of China's currency, believed by the Japanese to have been inspired by a British expert, brought down a blast of condemnation from Tokyo. In other words, Japan was seeking to make China a protectorate.

Leading Chinese were striving to put the country in readiness for the heightened struggle which must come with Japan. Chinese students, in their youthful ardor, sought to organize against Japanese encroachments. Older heads in the government, apprehensive of provoking the extremists in Japan, sought to restrain the hot-heads but labored assiduously to make such preparations as they could for a war which might be postponed but which, short of a miracle, could not be avoided without abject submission.

The building of roads for automobiles was pushed. Most of the highways so constructed were without rock surface but they were better than nothing. The railroad from Wuchang to Canton was completed, thus giving through rail communication between Peking and Canton except for the unbridged Yangtze. Several other railways were built. Industrialization

proceeded. The beginnings of an airforce were made.

In 1936 a peace was patched up between the Kuomintang and the Communists. This came in the course of a long and exhausting struggle which obviously was weakening the country in its resistance to Japan. Chiang Kai-shek, the most powerful figure in the Kuomintang, was pushing for the unification of the country. His most obdurate opponents were the Communists. These, expelled from the Kuomintang in 1927, had kept up their resistance. For some time their chief center was in Kiangsi. There they sought to establish a separate administration. The armies of Chiang Kai-shek pressed them so hard that late in 1934 the Reds evacuated their strongholds in that part of the